



# Department of Justice

United States Attorney Michael J. Sullivan  
District of Massachusetts

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## Owner of State's Largest Asbestos Training School Re-Indicted

*Indictment Includes New Charges Concerning Illegal Aliens and Hidden Payroll*

BOSTON, MA - The owner of the state's largest asbestos training school, Environmental Compliance Training ("ECT"), was charged in August 2007 with falsely reporting to the state that it had trained dozens of individuals to conduct asbestos removal work who in fact had not taken the course, is now the subject of additional charges in a superseding indictment.

United States Attorney Michael J. Sullivan, Michael Hubbard, Special Agent in Charge of the Environmental Protection Agency's Criminal Investigation Division in New England; Bruce M. Foucart, Special Agent in Charge of Immigration and Customs Enforcement – New England Field Office; Douglas A. Bricker, Special Agent in Charge of the U.S. Internal Revenue, Criminal Investigation – Boston Field Office; Jeff Paula, Special Agent in Charge of the Office of Inspector General, U.S. Social Security Administration, Office of Investigations – Boston Field Division; James P. Ennis, U.S. Department of State, Diplomatic Security Service; Anthony DiPaolo, Chief of Investigations of the Massachusetts Insurance Fraud Bureau; and Laura Marlin, Commissioner of the Massachusetts Division of Occupational Safety, announced today that **ALBANIA DELEON**, age 38, of 1 Sillen Dreive, Salem, New Hampshire, was charged in an indictment with one count of conspiracy to make false statements, to encourage illegal aliens to reside in the United States and to hire illegal aliens.

**DELEON** also was charged with multiple counts of mail fraud and procuring false tax returns based on allegations that she ran an under-the-table payroll through her temporary employment agency, that enabled her to evade payment of payroll taxes and workers compensation insurance premiums.

The indictment alleges that from approximately 2001 to 2006, **DELEON** owned and operated ECT, a certified asbestos training school located at 2 Charles Street in Methuen. Under federal and state law, in order to work in the asbestos abatement industry, an individual must complete a 32-hour introductory training course. ECT normally offered these courses on a weekly basis at its Methuen offices. Nevertheless, many of the recipients of the certificates never took the required course. Instead, with **DELEON'S** knowledge and approval, ECT's office employees issued certificates of course completion to numerous individuals who did not take the course. These individuals filed the certificates with the Massachusetts Division of

Occupational Safety (“DOS”) in order to be authorized to work in the asbestos removal industry.

According to the Indictment, because ECT’s training course records were subject to inspection, **DELEON** sought to cover up ECT’s practice of issuing certificates to untrained applicants by having the applicants sign final examination answer sheets that already had been completed and graded, which she maintained in ECT’s files. Many of the untrained certificate recipients were directed to work for Methuen Staffing, **DELEON’S** temporary services company that specialized in asbestos removal. **DELEON** paid most of these employees under-the-table, that is, without taxes withheld, and reported to the IRS and her workers compensation insurance carriers only those employees that actually had taxes withheld. This enabled her to save over a million of dollars in tax and insurance payments.

If convicted on these charges, **DELEON** face up to five years imprisonment on each count, to be followed by three years of supervised release and a \$250,000 fine.

The case was investigated by the Environmental Protection Agency, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Internal Revenue Service, the Social Security Administration, the Department of State, and the Massachusetts Insurance Fraud Bureau. The government was assisted in the investigation with information provided by the Massachusetts Division of Occupational Safety. It is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jonathan F. Mitchell of Sullivan’s Economic Crimes Unit and Special Assistant United States Attorney Peter W. Kenyon, a EPA senior enforcement attorney.

The details contained in the indictment are allegations. The defendant is presumed to be innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

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